

STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 2001-492

Maine Public Service Company  
Request for Accounting Order to  
Reduce Annual Acceleration of  
Amortization of the Company's  
Asset Sale Gain Account

July 25, 2001

ORDER

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

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**I. SUMMARY**

In this Order we approve Maine Public Service Company's (MPS or Company) request for an accounting order to allow it to change the annual acceleration of the amortization of the Company's Asset Sale Gain Account to an amount equal to the difference between the transmission rates set by FERC effective June 1, 2001 and the transmission component of rates set by this Commission in Docket No. 99-185, currently estimated to be \$27,000 beginning June 1, 2001.

**II. BACKGROUND AND DECISION**

On June 8, 2001, MPS filed its request for an accounting order to allow it to reduce the annual acceleration of the amortization of its Asset Sale Gain Account to \$27,000 beginning June 1, 2001. This reflects the amount the Company's FERC transmission filing of \$2,407,000 for the year beginning June 1, 2001 exceeded the transmission component of rates of \$2,380,000 allowed by the Commission in Docket No. 99-185.

The proposed treatment is consistent with the treatment allowed by the Commission in Docket No. 99-185 by order dated August 11, 2000. In that order, the Commission allowed the Company to accelerate the amortization of the Asset Sale Gain Account by an amount sufficient to offset any increase in transmission rates approved by FERC in Docket No. ER00-1053-000. The approved stipulation allowed the accelerated amortization to allow retail transmission and distribution rates to remain at current levels, requiring no change to MPS's current retail rate schedules, in order to provide stability of MPS's rates.

Based upon our review, the Company's proposal is consistent with the intent of both the Commission order and approved stipulation in Docket No. 99-185 and therefore, is approved.

Accordingly, we

ORDER

That MPS is authorized to change its accelerated amortization of its Asset Sale Gain Account to equal an amount sufficient to offset any increase in transmission rates approved by FERC effective June 1, 2001.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2001.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

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Dennis L. Keschl  
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR:      Welch  
   Nugent  
   Diamond

## NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

1. Reconsideration of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
2. Appeal of a final decision of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Appellate Procedure.
3. Additional court review of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

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